

## THE CHRISTMAS GIRL.



AS THE CHARMING YOUNG WOMAN APPEARS IN A DAZZLING BALL TOILETTE.

## SPARKLE AND GLEAM

FEATURES OF THE SEASON'S NOVELTIES.

## DIAMOND INITIALS CORRECT THING.

If You Are Wealthy Enough, Give Your Best Girl a Fan with Her Initials Done in Jewels on the Sticks or Handles.

(Written for the Dispatch.)

It is going to be a diamond Christmas. Gems are to sparkle in dazzling splendor and scintillate in flashing beauty on the Christmas gifts that are presented by those who can afford to be generously up-to-date. The artists whose chief business in life it is to invent new designs in which diamonds form the component parts and who are happiest when devising new ways of displaying gemstons the ostentatious gems that should be seen without seeming to court attention, will have unlimited opportunity to show their originality and good taste. On the flaps of the dainty pocket-books, on the cross sticks of the delicate fans, on the covers of perfume-bottles, and on every part of the pretty articles that will be presented this Christmas by the wealthy, diamonds of the purest ray serene will reflect the light in brilliant colors.

From Paris comes the news that the diamond initial is to be all the rage. It is to be woven in fantastic designs on the handles of the fan. It will seek to rival the brightness of its owner's eyes when she holds her smiling-salt bottle in close proximity to the tip of her delicate nose; it will gleam and glow on breast-pin and watch case, and will radiate in warm and splendor wherever the art of man and handiwork meet. There will be no limit to the diamond fancy. If the designer finds that his field for diamond planning is curtailed, all he will have to do is to extend the field. From the crown of my lady's hat to the toes of her nineteenth-century boots there is a vast amount of ornamentation on which diamonds can be displayed to advantage, and upon none will this fact be more strongly impressed than upon him who goes shopping this Christmas, wishing to do the correct thing, and desiring to spare his purse as much as possible.

But while it is entertaining to read that diamonds are to be lavishly displayed on the presents given during the coming Christmas, to the great majority of the people gifts of a less costly nature are a subject of more practical interest. To such, the stores in our big cities present a picture that for variety and attractiveness has never been equalled. The storekeepers are that the bulk of the presents are to take the form of useful, rather than ornamental, articles. There will be an immense variety of new designs in umbrellas, the mountings of the handles in gold and silver having given plenty of scope for originality in this direction; elaborate toilet-sets will be favorite gifts by both married and single; manicure-sets in great variety are on sale at all the leading stores; for men, there is a choice collection of shaving utensils, among them an old favorite that bobs up again in the shape of a set of seven razors—one for use on each day of the week, the proper day being engraved on the blade, together with the initials of the man upon whose throats growth the razors are intended to be used.

A significant indication of the changing condition in the life of lovely woman, is the fact that many of the presents intended for the better half of the world take the shape of articles for office use. These are dainty ink-stands of cut-glass, gold pen-holders, silver-mounted blotting-paper holders, ivory paper-cutters, and cleverly-mounted calendars, artistically painted by hand.

all the articles of furniture in use and out of use, tables, chairs, desks, beds, bureaus, divans, pianos, stoves, pots, kettles, pans, and tea-sets; and, that most essential of all articles to the young lady of the short-frock stage of life who is about to set up Christmas housekeeping on her own responsibility—a doll that opens and closes its eyes and says "papa" and "mamma."

Concerning this latter all-important item in the list for Christmas presentation, the greatest novelty is a doll that can be completely dressed and undressed, every article of apparel being as carefully cut and as accurately made as though the great man milliner himself had stepped from his Parisian pliancy, and constituted himself for the nonce chief designer and dressmaker to the doll family of Christendom. All the doll designers have laid themselves out to invent a variety of costumes, and with the 1887 doll goes a wardrobe, and with the child accompanying it to present her charms properly attired for any function that may be on the doll's programme.

Of course, with the doll's wardrobe so elaborately arranged, other conditions should be on an equally extensive scale, so that when buying a doll it will be necessary to purchase one of the little bureaus in which to have her wonderful wardrobe properly laid away when not in use.

The boy part of creation has not been forgotten. From a casual inspection of the toy stores this Christmas one gets the idea that it is better to be a small boy than anything else on earth. Among the articles that are intended to make the young gentlemen in knickerbockers and caps, and filled with saddle horses, farm houses, in the yards of which are whole regiments of cows and oxen, and innumerable specimens of those enigmatical creatures, camels—in a word, the whole animal creation in miniature—compose his court. In the mechanical toys there are trains that run by steam power, trolleys propelled by electricity, while fire engines drawn by dashing steeds are constructed with an exact regard for the detail of the real mechanism.

But one could go on enumerating these presents without end. After all it is not the glamour of paint and tinsel that makes valuable the little cheap present child of the hand of charity will bring fully as much brightness as the costly present of the wealthy boy and girl. There is just as much fun to be gotten out of a rag doll as there is to be obtained from a high-priced wax baby or a cat with a coat of real fur. Who can doubt that who has seen humanity in all its varied phases, and wealth, and poverty in its lights and shadows of happiness and pathos?

## Christian Exaltation.

(Paul Hamilton Hayne.)  
O Christian soldier! shouldst thou rue  
Life and its toil as others do—  
Wear said crown from day to day,  
And garb thy soul in hallowed gray?  
Oh! rather shouldst thou smile alate,  
Unquelled by sin, unswayed by hate—  
Thy lofty-spirited spirit dress  
In robes of royal statefulness—  
For say, what service so divine  
Gives by the hand of charity will bring  
Fully as much brightness as the costly  
Present of the wealthy boy and girl.  
There is just as much fun to be gotten  
Out of a rag doll as there is to be  
Obtained from a high-priced wax baby  
Or a cat with a coat of real fur.  
Who can doubt that who has seen humanity  
In all its varied phases, and wealth, and  
Poverty in its lights and shadows of  
Happiness and pathos?

## TO MARK CONFEDERATE GRAVES.

## Southern Women Head the List of Generous Contributors.

Some time back it was decided by a number of southern patriots to collect the sum of \$4,000 to mark the graves of 30,000 Confederate prisoners who died in northern prisons, and now lie in distant graves, unmarked and generally uncared for. In collecting the money the Daughters of the Confederacy have so far led, though some of the camps of veterans have responded generously to the appeals.

Among the contributors are the chapters in Raleigh, N. C., \$3; San Antonio, Tex., \$2.75; Norfolk, \$2; Camden, Ala., \$3; Black Horse Chapter, Warrenton, \$20; Waynesboro', Va., chapters, \$25.00; Hampton, Va., Chapter, \$5; Staunton, Va., Chapter, \$10; Charleston, S. C., Chapter, \$10; Jacksonville, Fla., Chapter, \$5; Macon, Ga., Chapter, \$10; Petersburg, Va., Chapter, \$25; Richmond, Va., Chapter, \$15; Cheraw, Ala., Chapter, \$5; Mary Custis Chapter, Virginia, \$25; Seventeenth Virginia Chapter, \$5; Chapter of Winchester, Ky., \$2; Harrisonburg, Va., Chapter, \$10; Chapter of Rome, Ga., \$5.

Fifteen other chapters throughout the South have promised assistance. The list of the camps of veterans which have contributed is: Lee Camp, of Richmond, \$25; Petersburg Camp, \$30; Army and Navy Society, of Maryland, \$50. Maryland, besides, has already marked every Confederate grave on her soil.

The Liberty Masonic Camp gave \$5 towards the monument, and individual contributors gave \$25—Mr. J. E. B. Stewart, \$1; Mr. John B. Cary, \$10; Mr. H. T. Archer, \$1; Mr. L. L. Christian, \$5; and Mr. J. H. Benton, of St. Louis, Mo., \$5.

## Reminiscences of Darbytown.

Aylet, Va., December 15, 1897.  
To the Editor of the Dispatch:  
I notice in your last Sunday's issue "Notes from Darbytown." I am glad it has been rediscovered. Some three years ago, travelling through the lower part of Henrico, I made diligent inquiry for "Darbytown," being anxious to see it, for I was born there. I found it was a half century ago, and the conclusion it was such an important place General McClellan must have carried it away with him in his grand retreat to the James in 1862, for in his official report he said: "I have captured Darbytown, a very important suburb of Richmond."

In the seven days' fight I fought the Yankees all through that section, and for three hours I stood in the "Dave Hill" yard, where I first saw the light, and fought without advancing or retreating ten steps, and as soared as I could, I had lectured the place very well, though I had not seen it since I was 12 years old. After the fight (it was dark) I went straight to the old spring between Dave Hill and "Aunt Clark's." Much more I might say, but would be glad if my venerable and beloved friend, Augustus B. Clark, could tell me something of "Old Darbytown" and "Four-Mile-Creek Church," for I think he, too, was born there. Respectfully,  
WILLIAM H. TURPIN.  
Ex-Private Company "D," Fifty-third Virginia Regiment.

He Was Swift.  
(Atlanta Constitution.)  
An old Atlanta darkey gave his employer the other day some reminiscences of the war.  
"And you say," said his employer, "that you followed your master through the entire war?"  
"Dat I did sub!" was the proud reply.  
"He was a great soldier, was he?"  
"Well, sub!" replied the old man, "I couldn't tell much about dat. He was runnin' so fast all de time it was hard to keep up wid him. All I does know is—he was werry swift!"

If the Baby Is Cutting Teeth  
be sure and use that old and well-tried remedy, Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup, for children teething. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, cures wind-colic, and is the best remedy for diarrhoea. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

## FANCIES OF FASHION.

LACE FABRICS ARE MORE FASHIONABLE THAN EVER.

Jewelled Buttonholes—New Leathers in Use—Various Fashion Pads for the Holiday Season—Several Suggestive Notes.

(Correspondence of the Dispatch.)  
NEW YORK, December 18.—In black lace and net there are charming gowns, trimmed with appliques of black or white lace, or both, and jet spangles. If cut with a low neck, there is a yoke of black or white lace for all occasions, except full-dress functions, and a collar, belt, and perhaps revers around the low neck of bright pink, red, or green velvet.

If figured lace is used the designs around the hips and on the waist are outlined with jet. Steel and silver spangles are particularly elegant when mingled with jet or black.

Brussels net gowns are not expensive if one has a half-worn silk dress to use for a lining. Red net gowns with a black sash are quite striking, but more stylish is a white tulle dress under a white net, dotted with red chenille, and trimmed with red velvet ribbon.

Applique vines and leaves of lace are used to head ruffles on these dresses, and the lower edge frequently has a second narrow vine, or a row of tiny edgings. Even chiffon and mousseline washes are now covered with applique half-way up the long ends.

Crepe and chiffon are fashioned in a similar manner. In silvery gray over gray the only trimming is a blouse front of white dotted chiffon, with steel and gray pearls and Corise velvet collar, and belt with steel buckles. This in crepe answers for an informal at-home toilette.

Pale-blue chiffon over deeper blue tulle has a belt and shoulder-knots of darker blue velvet ribbon. The waist is in surplus style, with a long spray of pink flowers from the left shoulder falling over the skirt.

In pink and yellow there are costumes trimmed with appliques of black Chantilly lace on each of the ruffles covering the skirt. Others merely edge a deep Spanish flounce, and cover the pointed front breadth above.

The blouse has the front with appliques and a thick ruche of the color around the low neck; belt of black mousseline, or velvet with long ends. Lace boleros are worn with high-necked gowns of crepe having glove sleeves. Dressy house-gowns of royal-blue crepe over tulle are trimmed with white lace appliques; white satin collar and belt, and the blouse dotted with iridescent spangles.

## NEW VEILINGS.

Veilings are preferred in black or white. Black veiling tulle with spots woven in the net itself, and chenille-spotted tulle are equally favored, and some novelties have appeared with spots of different sizes. The most approved style of meshes for tulle veils are extremely fine, the object being to render them as invisible as possible, so that the spots may stand out in greater relief.

Among the becoming articles shown is a double veil consisting of Mechlin tulle, generally white, of an extremely fine description, covered with almost invisible black meshes, spotted with chenille. Modistes are beginning to make use of plated satin ribbons with the plaits sewn down on the upper edge by means of invisible stitches. They are sometimes used in several different widths, but it is one preference is given to Nos. 12 or 13.

A notion just shown in Paris is a jeweled buttonhole, sold in graduated sizes, for the front of bodices. Some are of paste, others in gold; steel and thysts and steel and brass are put together. These sometimes resemble old drop-earrings placed horizontally on the dress; others are of a lozenge shape, but all are novel.

Elephant skin for pocket-books and card-cases is the success of the season, but should not be purchased unless mounted in silver filigree. This is needed, in order to set off the rough appearance of the skin. Rhinoceros skin is made up in the same articles. The skin is rougher and heavier than the elephant's, and is more of a desert. All-igator skin is still fashionable but must have heavy and wide markings. The greenish tones are considered the most stylish.

Card-cases, pictures, frames, memoranda books, &c., come in exquisite white and gold, or black and gold, with turquoise amethysts, Mexican opals, &c.

The lovely dinner- or ball-gown we illustrate this week is in pink satin. The skirt has an elaborate embroidery around the hem, and the bodice is round and fitted. The low, square blouse in silk muslin is striped with vertical rows of black velvet, each studded with three tiny rosettes in muslin. The belt is of black velvet. White lace spangled with gold around the neck and shoulders. A ribbon crosses the neck diagonally, and standing loops of ribbon form sleeves.

The chic skating costume is of Indian-rose cloth, trimmed with bands of Astoria, and surmounted by a wide round collar. The skirt is lined with fur. The plastron is of white satin; the hat of red velvet.

Our stylish house-gown is of pink vicuna, or cashmere, quaintly striped with irregular bands of coarse gauze, or em-broidery, outlined with small chiffon puffs.

## THE NORTHERN NECK.

## The Low Price of Corn—Personal Mention.

(Correspondence of the Dispatch.)  
COMON, KING GEORGE COUNTY, VA., December 17.—The farmers here are selling their corn at 27 cents per bushel. The cost of shelling, hauling, etc., and other expenses of shipping deducted, leaves them at most about 20 cents per bushel. This low price is causing a great deal of dissatisfaction and complaint. A year ago these farmers were told, and McKimley would bring higher prices for corn, and better times. During the past summer and fall there was more money in circulation here than had been seen in many years, and this was said to be the advent of the promised "prosperity," and it was again argued that this "increased circulation" would be followed by "old-time prices" for corn in December. But it turns out that the "increased circulation" was simply the proceeds from cattle, which the farmers were obliged to sell in order to pay their debts, many cattle being sold which had been turned out for stock at \$1.00; and it further comes out that \$1.00 per barrel for corn is no improvement on last year, and the year or so preceding. This leaves the average farmer in worse condition than ever before, and the bitter disappointment and dissatisfaction resulting from this state of affairs and unfulfilled promises are being manifested as never before. To say that some of the tolling people who were promised and pledged relief are now almost desperate is putting it mildly. Disappointment is by no means confined to Democrats, who hoped for better prices and relief through the McKimley Administration, but some of the most prominent and faithful Republicans say that they have been deceived, and are now lost faith in the ability of the Republican measures to bring relief to the farmers and workmen of the country.

Mrs. M. Mountjoy, of this neighborhood, left several days ago for New York City, and it is further comes out that Mr. P. B. Burks, near here, was for several days ago called to Caroline county by

the critical illness of his mother, who is about 90 years of age.  
Mrs. Captain J. T. Emmert, of Baltimore, is the guest of her father, Mr. Joseph Perry, near here. She may spend the winter in this county.  
Mr. W. E. Baker, Jr., of Richmond county, visited his parents, at Shiloh, this county, several days ago.

## PETERSBURG SOCIETY.

## Card Party—A Beautiful Entertainment—Personal.

PETERSBURG, VA., December 18.—(Special.)—The usual card parties took place, and with a concert and a dance, form our social record for this week.

The Veteran Corps Band, of Baltimore, gave a concert on Monday night, under the auspices of the Daughters of the Confederacy, the object being to raise funds for monuments to the Confederate soldiers who died in northern prisons. The concert was very well attended. With such patronesses as Mrs. R. W. Collier, Mrs. Robert T. Meade, Mrs. H. V. L. Bird, Mrs. James McClellan, Mrs. W. L. Venable, Mrs. A. C. Pryor, and Mrs. R. L. Watson, it is needless to say that it was a success.

Miss Mary Zimmer entertained the Night Club on Tuesday. Those present were Mrs. Montgomery Jackson, Mrs. Samuel Burrell, Mrs. George Cameron, Jr., Misses Mary Bensley, Lucy Watson, Mary Friend, Bessie Venable, Leiper Venable, Mary Roper, Sallie Bernard, Julia Budd, Frances Ream, Elise Harrison, Nannie Scott, Margaret Zimmer, May Rogers, and Otella Johnston. Messrs. Brooks Rogers, George Cameron, Jr., W. H. Habliston, Harry Mann, Hamilton Rogers, Spooner Epes, Allie Friend, Charles Hall Davis, W. L. Zimmer, Frank Kenney, Montgomery Jackson, Samuel Burrell, John Moyler, John Watson, Paul Roper, Herbert Mann, and Bartlett Roper, Jr. Miss Mary Rogers and Mrs. Jackson tied for the lady's prize, a hand-painted empire fan, Miss Rogers cutting successfully. The gentlemen also had to resort to cutting—Mr. Bartlett Roper, Jr., one of our prominent young lawyers, and Captain Jackson having won the same number of games. Captain Jackson won, the prize being a silver comb.

By long odds the most beautiful card-party of the season was the one on Thursday afternoon at the handsome old home of Miss Caroline Banister Pryor, Centre Hill, famous for its hospitality, even in the South, the land of hospitable homes. The elegant parlors presented a most beautiful appearance, being lavishly decorated with flowering almond and holly, and everywhere prettily tinted lights gleamed among the shining leaves and graceful sprays. The spacious rooms were filled with youth and beauty and the sound of musical voices, reminding one of the entertainments for which Centre Hill was famous in ante-bellum days; until it seemed as if the powdered beauties had forsaken their long accustomed places and stepped down from their portraiture to join again in the gaieties of which they were belles in bygone days.

Miss Pryor received the guests with the same easy cordiality and graceful tact which has gained for her mother such an enviable reputation as a hostess. Those who were present were Misses Mary Friend, Bessie Venable, Leiper Venable, Nan Davis, Lucie Watson, Martha Russell Collier, Nannie Caskie Scott, Katherine Mann, Ella Ashby Bernard, Nellie Cooke, Bessie Cooke, Anna Banister Gill, Margaret Zimmer, Mary Zimmer, Grace Leavenworth, McGill, Mary Armistead, Marie Steele, Helen McGill Leavenworth, Mary Roper, Kathryn Perceval, Lillian Nichols, Roberta Bolling Gill, Mary Zelema Johnston, Mrs. E. Clarence Kent, Mrs. Hill, of Washington, D. C.; Light Leavenworth; Anne Coleman Williams, of Richmond; Sallie Bernard, and Elise Harrison. The young ladies winning prizes were: first, a silver nail-polisher, and Miss Lina Noltenius, second, a jeweled hat-pin. They won the same number of games, but the hostess decided that instead of cutting, the usual manner of deciding a tie, they must play it out; so, deciding a tie, they must play it out; so, deciding a tie, they must play it out; so, deciding a tie, they must play it out.

Mrs. Nelson T. Patterson and her daughter, Miss Mary Triplett Patterson, have returned from a tour of Europe. Mr. David Dunlop, Jr., who has been visiting her brothers, in Roanoke, is at home again.

Mr. Dandridge Spotswood's many friends will be glad to know that he is able to be out.

President of the School of Mines at Rolla, Mo., is visiting at the hospitable home of his sister-in-law, Mrs. George Mason.

Mr. G. L. Baker, of Abbeville, S. C., private secretary to Senator Caffery, of Louisiana, was in Petersburg last week. Mr. A. B. Thomas Scott spent last Sunday in Petersburg.

Miss Anna Dunlop is at home again after two years' study in Paris. Petersburg is very proud of her reputation as an artist, which Miss Dunlop has made for herself.

The German on Friday night was a delightful affair. Those participating were Misses Mary Zelema Johnston, Otella Johnston, Leiper Venable, Martha Collier, Mary Ellen Whyte, Nannie Scott, Elise Harrison, Mary Armistead, Lucie Watson, and Anne Coleman Williams, of Richmond; Messrs. Tucker Whyte, Bartlett Roper, J. Monro, B. Gill, Leroy Roper, John Watson, Spooner Epes, Paul Roper, Harry Mann, Robert Bland, Wilbur A. Bond, James Weddell, Herbert Mann, Andrew Allen, George Plummer, Harvey Plummer, John Arthur Johnston, and Nat. Roper. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Stratton chaperoned. The German was led by Mr. Wallace Duncan Jefferson.

## Make a Present to Yourself.

(Sam Walter Foss in Christian Endeavor World.)  
Give your wife a handsome dress,  
Give Irene a doll,  
And your boy a sled and skates,  
They deserve them all;  
Pile your gifts on every shelf,  
Fill up every shelf.  
But—  
Make a present to yourself  
Now on Christmas-Day:  
Man of great or little pelf,  
Make a present to yourself.  
Give yourself a better heart  
On an ampler plan,  
Full of blessedness and hope,  
Full of love to man,  
Give to Dick and Sue their part,  
Give to Dick and May,  
But—  
Give yourself a better heart  
Now on Christmas-Day:  
Man of great or little pelf,  
Make this present to yourself.  
Give yourself a better soul,  
Now on Christmas-Day:  
Man of great or little pelf,  
Make this present to yourself.  
Give to each a generous dose,  
Bess and Tom and Ray,  
But—  
Give yourself a better soul,  
Now on Christmas-Day:  
Man of great or little pelf,  
Make this present to yourself.

Where He Erred.  
(Judge.)  
Parson Johnson: I just stopped in a moment ago to see de Widder Jackson. I found her quite unreasonable. I told her dat weeping would not bring her husband back, and—

## A YULETIDE IDYL.



ARTISTIC GOWN FOR CHRISTMAS.

## A. HUTZLER'S SONS, A. HUTZLER'S SONS,

315 EAST BROAD STREET, 315 EAST BROAD STREET.

Old Father Time has cut another notch in his stick, and here we are once more in line marching up to

## THE HOLIDAY SEASON

and trying to see who shall excel in giving joy to his neighbors.

## TIS A STUDY

with many to discover how best to meet the expectations of their friends, without doing violence to a purse

## ONLY PARTLY FILLED

and so we endeavor to do our little mite towards relieving this difficulty

## BY OFFERING

a line of HOLIDAY GOODS unsurpassed in beauty and attractiveness, and unapproached in modesty of price.

## ELEGANT STERLING-SILVER NOVELTIES

are here in infinite variety of design, at the very smallest prices imaginable.

## CUT-GLASS AND BOHEMIAN GLASS

are to be had at prices far below all former values. Our efforts have been directed to the accumulation of every kind of

## NOVELTY IN KNICK-KNICKS,

such as celluloid trifles, for the boudoir or library, Dresden and Tipitz Vases, Biscuit Figures and Ornaments, Bronze Groups, Onyx-Top Brass Tables and Cabinets, Bamboo and China Tea-Tables, and an unlimited assortment of Handkerchiefs, Gloves, Ties, Scarfs, Vests, and other useful articles.

## THE LITTLE ONES

have not been forgotten. Our assortment of Toys which has received a general approval before attempted, special attention having been given to the selection of Mechanical Toys, at prices heretofore supposed to be only dreamed of by those who carried their first times.

## 5c. and 10c. ARTICLES

are decidedly in the ascendancy, and they well deserve to be, because of the great worth attached to articles at a price that is easily within the reach of

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We take pleasure in commending a department of our time, because of the great and lasting gratification it is capable of conferring. We refer to

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which has been stocked with a special view of meeting the demands for illustrated books, charmingly written and well bound.

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well deserves to be placed in the front rank of artistic book-makers. We have his books in full variety, together with innumerable selections from the best writers of books, suitable for boys and girls.

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## Grain, Hay, Straw, &amp;c.

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